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STAR WARS®

IT'S A GREAT BIG GALAXY OUT THERE...

Now that you have all six *Star Wars* films in your home video library, you may think that you have the entire saga—everything that has ever been told about the characters, the places, and the events that took place such a long time ago, in that galaxy far, far away. You could *think* that, but you'd be wrong!

At its heart, *Star Wars* is about the rise, fall, and—with the help of his son Luke—the redemption of Anakin Skywalker. But the story of the Skywalkers encompasses many more adventures and touches many more lives than could ever be chronicled in the films. You might even say that the six films are but the tip of the *Star Wars* iceberg. Almost from the beginning, the situations and continuities of the films have been expanded upon by the events in comics, novels, games (both role-playing and video), and, most recently (with the addition of the *Clone Wars* cartoons), television. But comics were the first place where new stories were told. Marvel Comics published 107 monthly *Star Wars* comics from 1977 to 1986. By late 1991, when Dark Horse Comics obtained the *Star Wars* license and began its own publishing program, the stories told outside the films had been codified as the "Expanded Universe." And what a universe it is!

In the pages of this book we give you a brief look at those parts of the Expanded Universe with which Dark Horse Comics has been involved over the past few years. This is just the merest glimpse of what you've been missing (we've published over five hundred individual issues and collected volumes in the past thirteen years!), and there is much more to come.

Nurtured carefully by the stewards at Lucas Licensing, the *Star Wars* timeline now extends from the height of the Old Republic (four thousand years prior to the events in *A New Hope*) to stories of the grandchildren of Leia and Han (they married, of course!) and those of Luke and his wife. Plans are afoot to expand that timeline at both ends (while still leaving room for tales of the characters from both film trilogies). And Lucasfilm has recently announced its own plans to add not one, but possibly two new television projects to its roster. With the future (and past!) looking so bright, it's safe to say that the end of the films is in no way the end of *Star Wars*.

So, enjoy the films. Relive the excitement of your favorite scenes over and over again. Just don't think you've seen it all, because it's a great big galaxy out there, and it's getting bigger all the time!

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The Jedi and the Sith; forever at odds with one another, but both drawing on the Force for their power. One side light, the other dark. One side defending those unable to defend themselves, the other ever seeking to dominate the galaxy.

Art by Tsuneo Sanda • *Star Wars Comics Companion* **(2005)**

Conflict within the Force has continued since the earliest days of what is now known as the Old Republic. As long ago as four thousand years before Luke Skywalker made his fateful torpedo run against the Death Star, the Jedi order struggled against the dark power of the Sith.

Art by Brian Ching, colored by Mike Atiyeh
Knights of the Old Republic **(Coming in 2006)**

Great wars were fought, with many casualties on both sides. But more tragic than the deaths of those Jedi who fell in battle were the fates of those who succumbed to the lure of the dark side—and lost not only their lives, but their souls.

Art by Hugh Fleming • *Dark Lords of the Sith* **(1995)**

Eventually, the Jedi were victorious, and the Republic enjoyed relative peace for a thousand years. But that peace was broken by the Clone Wars!

Art by Tomás Giorello • *Clone Wars* **Volume 5 (2005)**

As war engulfed the galaxy, every Jedi was called upon to become a warrior. Most became generals for the Republic…

Art by Jan Duursema, colored by Brad Anderson
Republic **#65 (2004)**

...while others infiltrated the ranks of the Separatists as spies...

Art by Jan Duursema, colored by Brad Anderson
Republic #76 (2005)

...where they risked their lives to uncover the enemy's plans before they could be turned against the Republic.

Art by David Michael Beck, colored by Brad Anderson
Republic **#72 (2004)**

Jedi Aayla Secura uncovered one of those plans, which involved a Separatist clone army, created using an ancient cult of alien assassins as its genetic base.

Art by Jan Duursema, colored by Brad Anderson
Republic **#74 (2005)**

Master Luminara Unduli led armies on the planet Kashyyyk, fighting to prevent the Wookiees' secret hyperspace routes from falling into enemy hands.

Art by Jan Duursema, colored by Brad Anderson
***Republic* #81 (2005)**

And troubled Jedi Quinlan Vos waged war against his own dark side.

Art by Jan Duursema, colored by Brad Anderson
Republic #77 (2005)

And always, in the thick of every conflict, could be found the two greatest heroes of the Republic, Obi-Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker.

Art by Tomás Giorello • *Clone Wars* Volume 7 (2005)

From one end of the galaxy to the other, Obi-Wan and Anakin fought the armies and the champions of Count Dooku.

Art by Brian Ching, colored by Brad Anderson
***Obsession* #3 (2004)**

They defeated the Gen'ai bounty hunter Durge, whose regenerative abilities made him almost unstoppable.

Art by Brian Ching, colored by Brad Anderson
***Obsession* #2 (2004)**

On several occasions they clashed with the powerful Dark Jedi Asajj Ventress. It was she who gave Anakin the facial scars he bore in *Revenge of the Sith*, and it was she who sparked in Obi-Wan a fateful desire to bring her to redemption.

Art by Jan Duursema, colored by Brad Anderson
Republic #70 (2004)

But in the end, Obi-Wan could no more save her from the dark side than he could later save Anakin. Ventress' desire for power, and her own twisted need to find favor in Count Dooku's eyes, led her to a sad end on the graveyard world of Boz Pity.

Art by Brian Ching, colored by Brad Anderson
Obsession **#5 (2005)**

Yet, despite the Jedi's victory over the Separatist threat, the Clone Wars ended in tragedy and defeat. The discovery that the Jedi and the Republic had been manipulated by the Sith from a seat of power in the very heart of the Republic came too late. Thousands of Jedi were gunned down by their own clone troops…

Art by Dave Dorman • *Episode III: Revenge of the Sith* **#1 (2005)**

...and Obi-Wan Kenobi was forced to fight and—he thought—kill his own former Padawan, Anakin Skywalker ... the Jedi who should have been the Chosen One ... the one to bring balance to the Force.

Art by Dave Dorman • *Episode III: Revenge of the Sith* #4 (2005)

Instead, the Sith were triumphant. The Jedi were all but destroyed. The Republic became an Empire...

Art by Lee Bermejo • *Star Wars Tales* **#22 (2005)**

Art by Luke Ross, colored by Jason Keith • *Republic* #78 (2005)

Clone troopers became stormtroopers, and either through intimidation, or through the application of power...

Art by David Michael Beck, colored by Brad Anderson
Empire #36 (2005)

. the Empire held the galaxy in an iron grip for the next twenty years.

Art by Lee Bermejo • *Star Wars Tales* **#21 (2004)**

That grip was shaken—and ultimately broken—by the courage and power of a young man who would one day become the greatest Jedi in the history of the galaxy...

Art by Tommy Lee Edwards • *Empire* #26 (2004)

...and by the strength and wisdom of a young woman who was to become the heart and soul of the Rebellion, and the leader of a New Republic.

Art by Doug Wheatley • *Empire* #20 (2004)

Though neither Luke Skywalker or Leia Organa knew it at the time, they were linked to each other—and to the Force—by a shared heritage...

Art by Tomás Giorello • *Empire* **#29 (2004)**

Art by Tomás Giorello • *Empire* #34 (2005)

Inspired by Luke and Leia, others joined the Rebellion—even those who tried to convince themselves that they were only in the fight for personal gain.

Art by Jeff Johnson, colored by Michael Atiyeh
Empire **#24 (2004)**

And the Empire's own efforts to maintain its weakening hold on the galaxy caused others to join the struggle to throw off the yoke of tyranny.

Art by Kilian Plunkett, colored by Brad Anderson
***Empire* #23 (2004)**

Across the galaxy, the growing Rebel Alliance faced—and defeated—every threat the Emperor sent against them...

Art by Tommy Lee Edwards • *Empire* #28 (2004)

...until at last the Empire was overthrown!

Art by David Michael Beck, colored by Brad Anderson
Empire **#38 (2005)**

But the end of the Empire was not the end of the story. Luke and Leia—and their descendants—faced many additional adventures and dangers after the events in *Return of the Jedi*. Many stories have been told ... and many more will be told in the future!

Art by Gary Erskine • ***X-Wing: Rogue Leader* #3 (2005)**

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